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Fidel Talks But Fails to OK Release

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By Combined Wire Services

HAVANA, Oct. 11.—Negotiations for the release of 1,113 captured Cuban invaders bogged down last night in discussion of undisclosed "details."

It appeared the talks might continue for some time to come.

New York attorney James B. Donovan spent about four hours in conference with Premier Castro with the outcome of their talks left cloaked in mystery.

"The negotiations did not end today as expected," Mrs. Berta Barreto, a go-between in the negotiations, said after the meeting. "They will last two or three more meetings, because a few details must be revised."

NO DATE SET

Mrs. Barreto did not say when the two men would meet again. It appeared probable that no date had been set but a spokesman for the Cuban Prisoners' Families Committee said it was possible the talks would be resumed today or tomorrow. The spokesman declined to say what caused the hitch.

Mr. Donovan has seen Castro only twice in the eight days since the New York lawyer has been here. They conferred for about seven hours Friday at Varadero Beach, and met here late yesterday. In both cases, Castro called Mr. Donovan and set the place and hour of the meeting.

The negotiations have been secretive from the start, and nothing definite is known about the terms Mr. Donovan is offering.

There was nothing to indicate that the snag in negotiations was caused by the claim of Cuban exiles that they raided the north coast port of Isabella de Sagua Monday and killed 20 persons.

says it carried out the raid Monday.

His statement, in a broadcast from San Juan, said attacks will be carried out on all vessels—not just those from Iron Curtain countries.

The fact that the talks had not been broken off dispelled rumors that the negotiations had collapsed.

There had been considerable uneasiness among the rescue group's members because of delays in what had been billed as the final round of negotiations.

Mr. Donovan was to have met with Castro Tuesday but the session was postponed, presumably because Castro would be busy welcoming President Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado on his return from the UN General Assembly in New York.

Then word came for Mr. Donovan to stand by for the meeting yesterday.

He finally saw Castro in the late afternoon.

Informants in Havana said Pan American Airways has offered to fly the prisoners—captured in the Bay of Pigs invasion in April of 1961—to Miami as soon as an agreement is reached.

Mr. Donovan reportedly has offered medicine and food in lieu of the \$62,000,000 cash demanded by Castro for the prisoners' freedom. Informants in Washington say the U. S. government will pay for a shipment of about \$13,000,000 in medicine and food to Cuba if the prisoners are released.

Funds raised by friends and relatives of the captives in the United States and Latin America presumably will make up the remainder of the ransom. Any U.S. payment to Castro

is expected to kick up an uproar in Congress. Sen. John J. Williams, R-Del., and Sen. John Stennis, D-Miss., told the Senate they oppose any ransom payment.

Reports circulated in Washington that Mr. Donovan was acting for the Administration in the negotiations as well as for the families committee. But Edwin Guthman, Justice Department information officer, denied a story in a New York evening newspaper (not the Journal-American) that Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy asked Mr. Donovan to take on the assignment last June.

An informed member of Congress insisted, however, that Mr. Donovan is acting as an agent for the Administration with the full approval of President Kennedy and the Attorney General.

Cuban exiles in the United States were worried about the possible effect on the negotiations of the reported raid on Cuba's north coast.

DESCRIBE RAID

A communique in Miami from an exile group calling itself Alpha 66 said the raiders attacked a camp of Cuban militiamen and Russian military men 20 minutes after midnight Monday and stayed ashore for nearly two hours.

"In the railroad yards of the city," the communique said, "a warehouse of military supplies and four other strategic points were destroyed, many weapons and some flags of the enemy were captured. No fewer than 20 enemy were killed."

A spokesman for Alpha 66 said some of the slain were Russians but did not say how many.

The spokesman said 15 to 25

men were in the attacking force, that some were wounded, but that all got away.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, Antonio Veciana, another spokesman for Alpha 66, said the "war trophies" would be

exhibited in ball stadium. He added that the group had been planning the raid but was called off by the government.

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